



Femmes d'Esprit

Fall, 2016

WHAT HAS HONORS BEEN UP TO?

September:

- ◊ The Honors Program welcomed the Class of 2020!
- ◊ Members of the Honors Living & Learning Community moved into St. Anne's, a lovely residential house across from the Wellness Center.
- ◊ The Honors Program welcomed back senior **Cloricea Brooks** from her semester with the Williams College/Mystic Seaport Maritime Studies Program and wished junior **Lina Arboleda** Bon Voyage as she left for the program!
- ◊ Honors launched a new colloquium topic on childhood taught by **Dr. Richard Thompson**.

October:

- ◊ Honors announced the launching of a new course, "Food, Family, and Self," to be taught in the spring by **Dr. Roblyn Rawlins**.
- ◊ Honors Convocation recognized many Honors students for making Dean's List and receiving Honors medals. At the conclusion of the event, first year Honors student **Emily Brierly** led the audience in the singing of the Alma Mater.
- ◊ Honors junior **Kevona Jackson** travelled to Xavier University to attend the Urban Education Matters Black Lives Matter Symposium .



November:

- ◊ Honors students visited the New Rochelle Public Library's "Day of the Dead" exhibit and enjoyed a talk by the curators.
- ◊ Honors junior **Fabiola Padilla Rios** travelled with the women's volleyball team to face Emory College in the NCAA tournament!

December:

- ◊ Barbara Davis of the New Rochelle Public Library gave a guest lecture to the members of "December in America" about holiday traditions in New Rochelle.



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WELCOME DEAN DONNELLY!



In August, The College of New Rochelle announced the appointment of **Dr. David Donnelly**, dean of the Graduate School, as interim dean of the School of Arts & Sciences.

Donnelly's career in education spans undergraduate, graduate, and professional education. He started his career at the University of Houston's School of Communication, where he rose from Instructor to Associate Professor. He later served as the Director of Continuing Education at Sarah Lawrence College, Dean of the School of Communications at Quinnipiac University, and Dean of the College for Graduate Studies at Chatham University in Pittsburgh. He has also served as a Visiting Research Fellow at the McGannon Center at Fordham University.

Donnelly has produced and directed numerous video productions, including *Grading the Media* (2009), which was broadcast on Connecticut Public Television, and *Visual Velocity* (2000) which aired on PBS stations across the Southwest and at several film festivals. He has

written extensively for newspapers and academic journals and has contributed chapters to eight books, including *The Culture of Efficiency* and *Real Law@ Virtual Space*.

He holds a B.A. in Radio, Television, and Film from the University of Maryland, College Park, and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Communication from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. His research areas include technological innovation, media forecasting, and the scholarship of teaching.

Greetings,

In my short time in the School of Arts and Sciences Dean's Office, I have been impressed by the many great offerings across the school. In particular, the Honors Program stands out as a unique and distinctive pathway.

It is invigorating for us to work with such an outstanding group of passionate young scholars. You share our love of learning. We only have you for four years of your lifelong pursuit of knowledge. Our Honors Program provides many opportunities designed to enrich your undergraduate college experience. I am confident you will grow in many ways in your time here at CNR. And I know you will leave here well prepared for future success.

Best,

*David Donnelly, Ph.D.
Interim Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and Dean of the Graduate School*

HONORS MATTERS: REMEMBER THIS?

Dr. Amy Bass, Professor of History, Honors Program Director

We must know the right time to forget as well as the right time to remember. – Nietzsche

We spend a lot of time trying to remember stuff. There are the things we have to remember: set alarm clock, brush teeth, do laundry, buy a new printer cartridge, eat, call mom, renew driver's license, quit smoking. And then there are the things that we want to remember: friends, birthdays, holidays, special outings.

College fits, obviously, into both categories. There is a lot of stuff that you have to remember to do in college, whether it is writing a paper and getting it in on time, or studying for an exam and remembering everything the professor said and everything that seems important in the textbook. But there is also a lot that you will want to remember: how you decorated your room, who you ate lunch with, that trip into the city that was so much fun.

Either way, you make choices. You decide what is important, and you decide what to remember, whether it means posting photographs instantly from your phone to your Facebook page so everyone can see what you are up to, or whether you create flashcards of all the anatomy terms you need for your biology class. These memories are an essential part of who you are: as a student, a daughter, a sister, a cousin, a friend. They are an inextricable part of your identity. "Everybody needs [her] memories," Saul Bellow writes. "They keep the wolf of insignificance from the door."

By remembering these things, you are forgetting others. Choosing what to forget is something we don't often think about, and yet it is an action we take every day. While we might remember things, for example, via photographs, we perhaps don't remember thinking: Oh, I don't need a picture of that. While we can memorize the terms on those flash cards, we perhaps don't remember the terms in the book that we skipped over as "not important enough" to write down.

Those decisions can certainly haunt us. They can also help, as the act of forgetting can be an act of empowerment. Consider writing in a journal, for example, or perhaps even logging your day in 140 characters or less on Twitter. You are creating a version of your day, a version of your memory. You leave things out, perhaps because you cannot simply remember everything. But also because there are things you do not want to remember, whether because they are unpleasant or because they are seemingly insignificant. Either way, forgetting becomes an action unto itself. And if it wasn't, if you remembered *everything*, then *nothing* would mean *anything*.

So on occasion, put your pen down; close your laptop; don't take the picture. Stop trying to remember everything. Because if we forget nothing, we will not know the meaning of anything we remember.

HONORS 286: EVERY DAY A HOLIDAY?



Beth Nichols (below right) of Temple Israel of New Rochelle, who engaged students in a lively game of dreidel!

On November 6th, students took in the “El Día de los Muertos” exhibit at the New Rochelle Public Library. The library’s community coordinator, Barbara Davis, gave the students a historical overview of Mexican immigration in New Rochelle, followed by a tour of the exhibit with artists Lupita Torres and Armando Jimenez (above). The artists explained that Day of the Dead is a festive observance from Mexico that commemorates the return to earth of deceased family and friends.



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HONORS CURRICULUM: 2016-2017

Fall:

- ◊ Honors 110: Leaning In: Gender & Leadership
- ◊ Honors 105: Critical Research Essay, Dr. Daniel McCarthy
- ◊ Honors 286: December in America, Dr. Amy Bass
- ◊ Honors 385: Childhood, Dr. Richard Thompson
- ◊ Honors 490: Senior Symposium I, Dr. Daniel McCarthy

Spring:

- ◊ Honors 108: Topics in Identity: Food, Family, and Self, Dr. Roblyn Rawlins
- ◊ Honors 220: American Gothic, Dr. Michael Quinn
- ◊ Hon 386: Childhood, Dr. Richard Thompson
- ◊ Honors 491: Senior Symposium II, Dr. Daniel McCarthy

NEW COURSE: Food, Family, and Self

Dr. Roblyn Rawlins, Professor of Sociology

"Tell me what you eat and I will tell you what you are."

- Anthelme Brillat-Savarin (1755-1826)

Everybody should eat every day. But we don't all eat the same food. Why do we eat the way we do? What does our food reveal about us – about our individual personalities and identities, our families, our cultural or ethnic locations, our gender, our religious beliefs, our political commitments? What meanings and feelings do particular foods evoke, and for whom? What food tastes good to you, and why? How do we negotiate the complex and emotional issues of family, food, and identity?

Readings include *Building Houses out of Chicken Legs: Black Women, Food, and Power*; *A Bite Off Mama's Plate: Mothers' and Daughters' Connections through Food*, and *In Memory's Kitchen: A Legacy from the Women of Terezin*.



WHERE'S LINA?

Honors junior Lina Arboleda is spending the fall semester as a student in the prestigious Williams-Mystic American Maritime Studies Program, following in the footsteps of Manuela Patino, '14, Michelle Goyke, '15, Barrett Pritchard, '18, and Cloricea Brooks, '17. Lina's adventures have included a two-week offshore adventure on the U.S. Brig Niagara, a trip to explore the Pacific Northwest, and a visit to the Louisiana and Mississippi Deltas, where Lina learned how to hold a baby alligator! Lina is now back onshore, living at historic Mystic Seaport in Connecticut, studying Oceanography, Marine Policy, Maritime History, and Literature of the Sea. And most importantly.....

She learned how to slurp an oyster!



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THE FOUR THINGS I LEARNED AWAY FROM HOME

Mary Henderson—Class of 2011

Flashback: In 2009, Mary Henderson shared some of the secrets she learned (the hard way) while studying abroad and working on Martha's Vineyard one summer.

I have not been home very much this year and it has been one of the greatest learning experiences of my life to date. I spent the Spring Semester in Ireland, came home for a few weeks before moving to Martha's Vineyard to work for the summer, was home three days and then returned to The College of New Rochelle. I've made a lot of mistakes and learned a lot of things the hard way. So here's my list of the Top Four Things I've Learned This Year: *making mistakes so you don't have to!*

First, It's not possible to make all of the people like you all of the time.

This may sound obvious, and it is, until you are in a situation where no one likes you most of the time. When I was in Ireland, the seven of us Americans living together all hated each other by the end of the semester. As someone who has been known for attempting to make peace in any given situation, this was really hard for me—especially because this personality trait of mine was used to make me a scapegoat for why no one else was having a good time.

"Remember Ladies, the things you've found here are at home: you just have to open your eyes."

These final words from my Irish Anthropology teacher really struck a chord in the group of us who studied abroad. For us, despite not being able to get along, our study abroad experience had been rewarding and in some ways magical. This quiet reminder from Bríd that we didn't have to *travel* anywhere

to find magic and beauty is something that stands out as a pivotal piece of my Ireland experience, and it is ironic

that it happened about twelve hours before we left the country forever. I could probably write an entire piece just on the significance of this one moment to me.

It's okay to slow down. Really. I Promise.

Life, especially the life of a college student, is stressful. We have the tendency to become like chickens with our heads cut off—running around aimlessly just trying to accomplish anything. Unfortunately in my case, I often wind up less productive in this mode than at any other time. I think the best advice I can give is to take a minute, slow down your pace (literally) and refocus yourself on something else. You'd be surprised at the amazing things you notice around campus when you do.

Finally, You earn more respect by being a nice person.

Yes, it's true, I didn't learn this for the first time this year, but I did get constant reminders in my summer job. This summer I worked for The Martha's Vineyard Land Bank, and the purpose of this company was to buy and preserve land on Martha's Vineyard for public use. Every day I sat at the Manaquayak Nature Preserve dealing with people who felt as though they were entitled to behave in any way they wanted to on our property just because it was there. I got to deal with cranky neighbors and a great number of people who had been trespassing for years. My coworkers often responded with shouts and threats to kick people off the property, which brought them negativity in return. I always got more out of my guests with a smile and

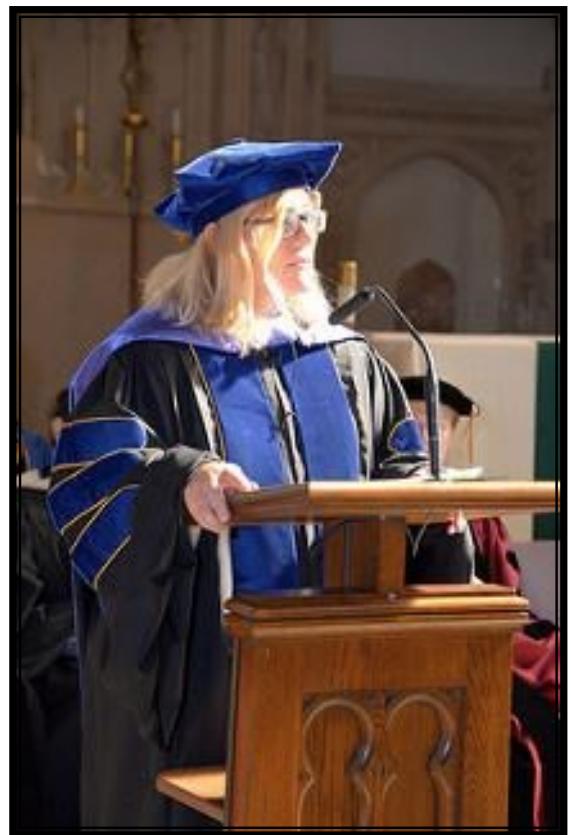
a calm tone than anything else, and I still managed to enforce all the rules. Imagine that.



HONORS CONVOCATION 2016



On October 15th in the Holy Family Chapel, the college recognized many Honors students at the annual Honors convocation for the School of Arts & Sciences and the School of Nursing & Healthcare Professions. Honors students achieving honors medals included **Lina Arboleda, Cloricea Brooks, Jillian Cea, Kevona Jackson, Mariana Pineda, and Karla Salamanca**. The college named **Zoe Leid, Grisel Medrano, Fabiola Padilla Rios, Barrett Pritchard, Nelly Salamanca, and Diana Sing** to the Dean's List At the conclusion of the ceremony, Honors first-year **Emily Brierly** sang the Alma Mater.



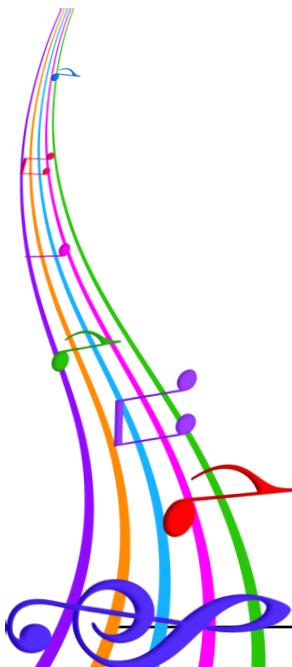
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WELCOME CLASS OF 2020!

Here the students in the Honors class of 2020 introduce themselves through their essays of self-description for Dr. McCarthy's writing class.

Kelia Bridge, Bronx, NY: I have lived with all six of my siblings and my cousin at one point in my life. I am the youngest and the age gap between me and my oldest sibling is 19 years. It is like I have 4 extra moms trying to point me in the right direction and not follow their mistakes. My sister graduated from The College of New Rochelle 3 years ago; three out of four of my sisters majored, in one way or another, with something that has to do with math. What I am trying to say is that my family is who I am. My self description would be a description of them because they are the ones that mold me and continue to shape my path. Of course I get to choose which way to go but ultimately 1 out of 7 would have probably had already chosen that path. I am unique but that is just because I have my family, each speaking within me in different ways. My mother's compassion is the reason that in high school I participated in 2 community service clubs, one of which I was president. My sisters' wisdom is why even though I had a job, my grades were still high and I studied to get a good score on my SATs. My brother's organizational skills are why I can juggle a job, school, and activities all at the same time. My choice of major is a reflection of two of my sisters majoring in accounting and the other having a bachelors degree in math. The paths that they chose helped me to choose my path and will continue helping me.

Emily Brierly, West Islip, NY: My name is Emily Brierly. I was born and raised in the southwest corner of Suffolk County, New York. I have an amazing mother whose self-sacrificial nature has allowed for me to grow in a comfortable and loving home, a charismatic older brother who has always been a sort of role model to me, and an older sister who received her PhD in Museum Sciences from the University of Leicester last winter. In my spare time I participate in many extracurricular activities. I am an NCAA dual athlete, being both a member of CNR's Cross Country and Softball teams, a member of the Holy Family Chapel Choir, and I founded CNR's newest Music Ensemble, The Grace Notes. Before coming to CNR, I was blessed with the opportunity to attend Saint John the Baptist Diocesan High School, a college preparatory school that I believe provided me with comprehensive preparation for the academic rigors of a college education and taught me that service to others should always come before oneself. My high school shaped my Catholic faith and helped me to see that doing service is actually a passion that allows me to feel more joy and fulfillment than any other activity I participate in- even more than that which I feel from playing softball or singing along to a tune on my guitar. This love for serving others is what motivated me to selecting my major, social work, since it is in the spirit of service and social justice that a social worker commits herself to helping others. I know with confidence that I am meant to be here and I look forward to my next four years at CNR and all of the challenges and lessons that await me.



Alexandra Czarkosky, Cheshire, Connecticut: My name is Alexandra Marie Czarkosky, but most people just call me Alex. I am from Cheshire, a medium sized town towards central Connecticut. I have spent all 18 years of my life in this town, spending most of my time on the softball field or hanging out with friends. I am an athlete; I have participated in multiple sport programs, such as track and field, powderpuff football, and softball (softball being my main sport.)

My last two years of high school were marked with a large amount of achievement when it came to athletics; I helped lead our track and field team to two divisional victories and our softball team to two separate state championships. My senior year we became the most decorated

softball team in our school's history, remaining undefeated for 27 games (a first for the program), bringing home the Housatonic title for the third year in a row, and winning the Southern Connecticut divisional championship. I also enjoy traveling with my family and have been to 40 out of 50 states with them, most recently Alaska. Academically, I enjoy history, psychology, and art classes. I am double majoring in Media Arts and Biology, and will be a member of the softball team. I am really looking forward to the next four years at The College of New Rochelle, and hope to make the most of my college experience, on and off the field.

Gabriel Lopez, Coral Springs, Florida: My name is Gabriel Lopez, but please call me Gabi. My mom is Peruvian and my dad is Cuban. I was born in Boca Raton, Florida and when I was one-year-old, my parents got divorced and my mom decided to move to Madrid, Spain with me. My dad stayed in the United States and I lived in Madrid with my mom for fifteen years, even though my dad came to visit me regularly. Three years ago, my mom and I decided to move to Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Learning English was a tough challenge but I got a hold of it after a year. I consider myself to be an honest, pleasant, funny person, even though I think I'm funnier when I speak in Spanish. I don't like hypocrites, narcissists, or liars. Soccer is my passion. I come from a country where soccer could be considered a religion and I have been playing it since I was 5 years old; my dream is to become a professional soccer player in the future. My other two passions are politics and traveling, so I decided to major in International Studies, which is a combination of both of them. I think I got the love for politics and traveling from my dad, who is always talking to me about politics and all the countries and cities he has visited in the past. I have many hobbies, for example reading, writing, working out, and playing video games.



Jhosalie Danseco, Bronx, NY: My name is Jhosalie Danseco and I am a biology major on the pre-med track. Having family in the medical field, I grew up being told I would make a great nurse because of my steady hands and readiness to help those in need. However, the thought of possibly being the cause of someone's pain or not being able to help someone made the health profession unappealing. I once thought about being a veterinarian; luckily I decided against it. I could not let the fate of a human life, let alone an animal's, be left in my hands. Then there was the time I considered going into engineering. My love of math and attention to detail made it seem like a viable course of action, but I still could not see myself doing that in ten years. People around me seemed like they knew what they wanted to be in life while I was still figuring out what I wanted for lunch. I had dabbled in art and could swim the pool length but I did not consider myself an artist or swimmer. It took me a while to have confidence in myself, enough to be able to say "I AM an artist" or "I AM a swimmer." Who I wanted to be became even clearer when I spent some time in a bio lab doing DNA replication. My quiet demeanor and obsession with routine allowed me to excel at lab work, furthering my interest in forensics. I was also influenced by shows like *Dexter* and *Criminal Minds* that dealt with crime scene investigation. I soon realized I could combine my interest in the medical field with forensic work by becoming a medical examiner. Working with the deceased seems an easier feat than keeping someone alive. My mother still questions why I would want to get into this field of work but is supportive because she knows I can if I want to. I am going into college fully aware of the time and dedication I have to put in to come out and be one step closer to my goal. The thought of being successful and waking up every day doing something I am good at is my main motivator in life. My parents have supported me in all my endeavors, including the time I wanted to be a professional mermaid. Just as I can push myself to keep going until I touch that pool wall; I know I can succeed as long as I "just keep swimming."

Victoria Holmes, Franklin, Virginia: Hi, I'm Victoria Holmes, I'm from Franklin, Virginia. I was recruited by Coach Rachel Mazza to play on CNR's softball team. I am currently Undeclared, but I'm interested in History. I come from a home where family is the number one priority. Back home are my Mom and Dad, my 15-year-old sister, my 11-year-old brother, and my two dogs. When I was 7-years-old, my parents signed me up for T-ball at the local athletic fields, and I loved it right away. Since then, my family's lives have revolved around sports. I honestly couldn't imagine what I would do with my time if I wasn't playing a sport. It's not just softball either, I love playing volleyball, and I love watching any and every sport. In the future, I would love to travel more because I haven't even gone out of the country yet. The places that interest me most are Greece, Turks and Caicos, and many more. I would also love to live in New York City when I start off my career, whatever that may be. I visited New York City on my sixteenth birthday and I loved everything about it. I loved the rush of the sidewalks and the streets, I loved the colossal skyscrapers that lined every street, and most of all I love the opportunities it offers. It offers so many opportunities to further my education also, seeing as I would love to get a Master's degree and even a Doctorate if my profession has the option. So, I am looking forward to CNR giving me the opportunity to make all of my dreams come true.



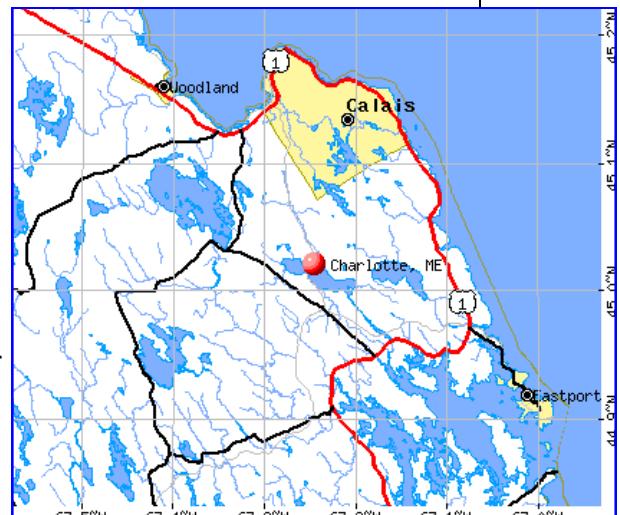
Stephanie Gonzalez, New Rochelle, NY: My name is Stephanie Gonzalez and I am the first in my family to attend college. My parents are Mexican immigrants who came to this country so that my sister and I can have the opportunity to create our own future. They encourage me to be the best person I can be and to work hard for what I love. For as long as I can remember, my parents have supported my growth as an artist, which has led me to where I am now. My major is Studio Art, and with my education here at CNR, I hope to one day become an animator for Cartoon Network. My pastimes include listening to bands such as Twenty One Pilots and

the 1975, watching cartoons like Steven Universe, and making people happy. Happiness is really important to me, not just my own, but that of others around me. My favorite way to bring joy to the world is through art. Yeah, I'll Photoshop a ridiculous picture or meme for my friends or make random comics here and there for them, but I believe the biggest impact I have left is on my Songcatchers students. Since my sophomore year of high school, I have been a volunteer at Songcatchers, an after school music program in which volunteers teach children how to play instruments. However, I am not very confident with my musical abilities, so I teach the Saturday morning art classes. There, I teach my students about various art terms and techniques and have them apply what they learned to their own art works. I always make sure there is a safe and comfortable environment for my students. No one is ever excluded; I engage in conversations with

them about school or their favorite books or whatever they want, and I make them feel like they matter, that they are important. I praise their efforts and I pay attention to what they say and support their goals and dreams. I remember how when I first started teaching, a lot of them complained about how they couldn't draw or weren't good enough, and now they want to volunteer with me. Seeing their faces light up with joy when I'm around makes me happy and motivates me to continue. Whether I do become an animator in the future



Felicia Moholland, Charlotte, Maine: My name is Felicia Moholland, I am an 18-year-old college freshmen. Unlike a lot of the students at The College of New Rochelle, I don't live in New York. I am from a very small town in Maine. The College of New Rochelle was the right choice for me because it is a stepping stone from Charlotte, Maine to the whole rest of the world. I have been an athlete my entire life. My nature generally isn't that competitive, but as soon as I step all the basketball court I transform into a different person. I love that drive to push myself harder and, having a goal to work towards, which is why I will be playing basketball here at The College of New Rochelle. I have always identified myself as an artist. Art is stress reliever for me. It helps me to escape from the rest of the world for a little while. I had initially planned to be a studio art major, but I realized that I didn't ever want art to feel like a job. My little brother is special needs, so from a very young age he has been given all forms of therapy including art therapy. This therapy helped him to develop his fine motor skills and communicate his feelings nonverbally. I've seen the way art therapy helps people. I want to help improve peoples' quality of life, so art therapy is the perfect path for me.



Chloe Wang, Scarsdale, NY: I really like the color red. I'm really indecisive, I'm skilled at getting flustered at Starbucks. I have one sister whom I'm really close with despite our constant fighting. I like long socks that almost reach your knees and have funny designs on them, like cats or pineapples. When I'm talking to friends I make a wish list in my head that's made up of things they offhandedly say they're looking for or don't have but really want, and if I ever see a thing on the list when shopping I'll get it for them if I have the money for it. They're small things, not like game consoles or expensive bowls but like weird chocolates, plush toys, and bracelets. I love my parents, they do everything they can to provide for my sister and me, but I feel as years go by that I've disappointed them and I hate myself for that. I'm normally super optimistic and bright, but there are days I shut down and all I want to do is nothing. I'm not very social. Some friends of mine assume that I'm an outgoing extrovert, but I don't think they remember how I acted before we got to know each other because, in reality, I'm terribly introverted. Parties tire me out mentally and talking to new people gives me anxiety, I'd prefer staying home, curled up on the couch with Netflix or a video game over going to a club or a house party. I am Chloe Wang. I was born on June 25, 1998. I also like the color blue.

Lisbet Zepeda, New Rochelle, NY: My name is Lisbet Zepeda, and I am currently a full-time student in college going for my bachelor's degree. I am motivated by the love to succeed as I strive to become a successful woman in today's society. My family consists of my parents and one older sibling. They play an important role in my success as they are my role models. I am a first generation college student with a Latino background. I was born in Mexico on October 10th, 1998 but was raised in the quaint city of New Rochelle. I didn't go so far away for college did I? Having tutored kids in math for the past four years, I realized that that was what I loved to do. That is when I decided my major was going to be in the mathematics field. I hope to become an influential leader to the kids I aspire to teach in the near future. My personality reflects that of a person with ambition, generosity, and thoughtfulness. I strongly believe that anything one sets their mind to can be accomplished. Since one of my greatest passions is to help, for the past two years I have been going on mission trips. Helping others not only brings me joy but changes my own outlook and attitude. In my case being "on the run" all day isn't just a saying. Working three jobs doesn't give me much time to sit down and embrace the moment. For me this is a privilege. Staying home and sleeping in doesn't bring me joy like most college students. Instead it makes me feel useless and like I am wasting time. Time that could be used not only making memories but growing intellectually. As uneventful as that may sound for some, I have a wonderful group of friends by my side that make sure I have a social life as well. That being said, I look forward to the next four years here at CNR and am beyond excited to discover everything College of New Rochelle has to offer.

Have you heard? The Honors LLC has new digs!



Living in **St. Anne's** has been a learning experience for Honors. When I received the news that the Honors LLC was given the opportunity to live in a house, I did not know whether to be excited or nervous. My initial thoughts about the house before everyone moved in? How do I decorate this place? Or more importantly, how will 10 young women use only 3 bathrooms? I was pleased to know that the first-year students loved their new house. And hearing how much the returning girls enjoyed their dream-catcher door decorations and freshman/sophomore year starter kits. The girls and I have grown to appreciate the house and what it has to offer over the last few months. The living room is always lively with **Emily** and her infamous guitar, or a popular Netflix series running on the television courtesy of **Jhosalie** and **Felicia**. The kitchen might be our favorite part of the house. It is where we anticipate the clock to hit 12am so we can sing happy birthday to whomever we are celebrating with a cake for **Emily** and a head of broccoli for **Zoe**. Or where we find ourselves opening take-out containers to prepare for a house dinner. Where **Mariana** and **Karla** prepare these delicious chicken tacos. Where **Kelia** and **Wen** help to prepare croissants for a house breakfast. The house also brings us together for house meetings when someone is using all of the hot water or leaving the side door unlocked and "**Aunt Barrett**" has to regulate. For the most part, the house has brought us all together like one big family (everyone calls me "mom"). I can honestly say everyone would not be this close as we are if we still lived in Ursula Hall.

— **Kevona Jackson, '18, Honors LLC Resident Advisor**

NEWS & NOTES



Top left: Congratulations to Honors senior **Diana Singh** on her election as student body president!

Middle right: Honors alum **Claudia Benitez**, now Student Activities Coordinator for the college, runs into **Dr. Bass** at the New Rochelle Thanksgiving parade!

Bottom left: Honors junior **Dominique Smith** shares the open mic at the Student Center with Honors sophomore **Zoe Leid** — so much talent in Honors!

NEW SEMINAR: LEANING IN: GENDER & LEADERSHIP

Dr. Rebecca Lafleur, Associate Professor of Psychology

In the Fall of 2016, the School of Arts and Sciences introduced a new Core Curriculum, the foundation of which is the Signature Program, a series of courses deeply embedded in the spirit of The College of New Rochelle's founding principles of inclusion, informed citizenship, and academic excellence. When Dr. Bass asked me to develop the First-Year Seminar for the Honors Program, I jumped at the chance to combine my interests in Women's Studies, Psychology, and Leadership and created a new course entitled Leaning In: Gender and Leadership.

Throughout the semester, the students and I read two main texts (*Lean in: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead* by Sheryl Sandberg and *Through the Labyrinth: The Truth about how Women Become Leaders* by Alice Eagly and Linda Carli) and assorted articles from the mainstream press and psychology journals. In class, we examined barriers to and opportunities for women's leadership, theories of women's leadership, gender differences in leadership styles, and the perceptions and expectations about women's leadership.

The presidential election provided a unique framework for the course, as our class discussions regularly analyzed the debates, campaign strategies, and the media's depiction of Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump. While most of the students were crushed by the outcome, we spent the day after the election watching Clinton's concession speech and discussing plans for action moving forward.

As the semester comes to a close, students are wrapping up two assignments: a case study of a woman leader and a group project developing a program to help women overcome barriers to leadership. I look forward to seeing what innovative projects they come up with!

ELECTION 2016:

In addition to the conversations that students had in **Dr. LaFleur's** class about the gender politics of the presidential campaigns and election, in the Honors special topics seminar entitled "Campaign 2016," **Dr. Daniel McCarthy** led lively discussions, with students exploring the machinations of history as it unfolded.

Needless to say, Honors students were *very* politically engaged this semester!

